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What is claimed is:

- (A) at least one moisture retaining component selected from the group consisting of amino acids and salts thereof, pyrrolidonecarboxylic acid and salts thereof, lactic acid and salts thereof, urea and betaines; and
 - (B) at least one sesquiterpene alcohol.
- 2. A cosmetic composition according to claim 1, wherein the sesquiterpene alcohol as Component (B) is selected from the group consisting of nerolidol, cedrol, quiaol, vetiverol and patchouli alcohol.